Notes on 17-AAG clinical trials from ASCO meeting, May 2001, San Francisco
L. Fritz

1. Banerji et al (Workman group, UK). (Abstract 326)

Enrolled 21 patients; 6 melanoma (most of any type). 2 patients showed stable disease (both melanoma, at 320 mg/). Drug comes as 25 mg/ml in DMSO.

PD measurements: HSP70 increased
Raf decreased
In one melanoma patient, CDK4 went down and HSP70 went up (no Raf in that tumor)

PK: at 320 mg/ m^2: Cmax = 5-10 uM

Has good xenograft data.

No myelotoxicity even at peak doses.

2. Wilson et al (NIH arm of the study) (Abstract 325)

Richard Wilson presented the poster, but has returned to Northern Ireland. Jean Grem now heads the NIH arm of the clinical trial.

Patients entered:

Colorectal   6
Pancreatic   5
Renal   2
Various   1 each

Total   18 patients

Wilson says Len Neckers was wrong – no lung cancer response was seen – in fact, n9o0 lung cancer patient has been entered at NIH.

They have seen two patients with stable disease: 1 colorectal and 1 renal. But, Wilson says you see these types of patients stabilize spontaneously.

PD measurements:

Had good degradation of Lck and Raf-1 in PBL's (by day 2) also, HSP70 up – all by Western (done by Neckers).

Regarding who at CTEP is in charge of the 17-AAG project:

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Louise Grachow   Runs Investigative Drug Branch in CTEP

Susan Arbuck   Runs Developmental Chemotherapy Section (runs it, or is in it?) Reports to Grachow. Is directly responsible for 17-AAG. Arbuck is the person we should contact

Dale Shoemaker   He was mentioned, but I'm not sure what his role is.

Sherry Ansher   Interacts with companies for CTEP. Jean Grem described her as "more like a lawyer".

3. Munster et al (MSKCC trial data) (Abstract 327)

Pam said she'd send us the slides that comprised her poster

4. Also spoke with the clinicain who runs the Mayo Clinic arm of the 17-AAG trial. He said they are having trouble reliably measuring Lck and Raf in their blood samples (Neckers had better gels – but said not all samples had Raf either). NCI seemed to have the best PD measurements of all the sites.